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S A T U R D A Y, F E B R U A R Y 8, 1772.

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VEXAT CENSURA COLUMBAS.

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Mr. RUSSELL,

You are desired to insert the following Protest in your useful Paper as seasonably as may be, by a number of your CUSTOMERS.

The LADIES PROTEST.

The LADIES of NEW-ENGLAND, over the *tea-table* assembled, this earliest opportunity to express their *dissent* to the late indecent, unjust, and dishonorary Address of a certain forward and loquacious *young Lady*, as she styles herself, called *Eleutherina*. See Boston Gazette of January 27, 1772.

Dissentient,

IMPRIMIS. Because they apprehend the *young Lady*, if she was her own *scribe*, discovers rather more zeal than knowledge; but they would rather conjecture for the sake of the *Lady's* reputation in the village where she resides, as she may probably be the *reigning toast* of her little circle, that some malecontent and if we may lisp our suspicions from similarity of

of sentiment and composition, one *Candidus* has palmed his trash upon the publick under so respectable a signature.

SECONDLY. Because they cannot but resent the unparalleled effrontery of this *petitioner* in presuming to represent the whole sex without their cognizance, authority, and appointment, therefore they think it their incumbent duty, from a tender regard to their honour and reputation to bear their warmest testimony against such unexampled *obtrusion* and *usurpation*.

THIRDLY. Because his Majesty's *Servants* are most illiberally and scandalously abused in said *address*; and notwithstanding the flimsy garnish of reverence and respect to their Majesties with which said *address* is copiously sprinkled, they discover a glaring disaffection to his Majesty's person, groundless and rude intimations of his want of wisdom and penetration in the choice of his *MINISTERS*, and throughout the whole composition an uncharacteristical inattention to that *delicacy* and *decorum* with which personages in their elevated stations should be addressed by a *LADY*.

FOURTHLY. Because our righteous Sovereign is indirectly charged with a scheme for *enslaving the nation*, by acceding to the measures of *false and cruel ministers*, who have deceived him with hypocritical professions of *friendliness to government*, and a pretended attachment to the *royal prerogative*; which charges we apprehend to be derogatory to his Majesty's honour and justice, and as far as they respect his Majesty's *Servants*, to be groundless, false, and seditious.

FIFTHLY. Because in said *Address* it is urged that the *glory of Britain depends upon America*, whereas it is the general import of said *address* to claim an unconstitutional independence on the parent state; which we are induced to reject as militating with every idea of due subordination, and not easily reconcileable with common sense.

SIXTHLY. Because it is intimated in said *address*, that the Royal Family as well as the whole British nation are verging upon the crisis of ruin from the *indiscrete management of publick affairs*, and the fallacious *practices of treacherous friends*; of all which being utterly unconscious, we cannot yield the said *petitioner* our implicit credit, and are therefore in honour and conscience compelled to withhold our assent.

SEVENTHLY. Because it is therein further intimated, that it is the *ministerial policy at this time to distress and abuse the Colonists*; and not being able to perceive on our own parts, or to discover from our dear husbands, children, or suitors that they are now sensible, or have any grounds of apprehension of future *distress and abuse* from his Majesty's *Servants*; we are therefore inclined to suspect that such complaints are merely visionary, the causeless ravings of an *enthusiast* in petticoats.

EIGHTHLY. Because this frantick petitioner has thought fit humbly to address a part of the state which she *totidem verbis* declares to be *more dependent on us than we on that*, whatever therefore may be our sentiments of this position, we apprehend this involves in it a degree of contradiction, and that we cannot with any propriety or consistency unite in a petition for relief to that *inferior power*, whose dependence on ourselves we assert, while our application to them for *redress* is an acknowledgment of their *superiority*.

NINTHLY. Because in said address it is expressly acknowledged that *we have enjoyed more of liberty than even the people of England*, which we are inclined to attribute in an especial manner to the patronage and tenderness of that truly parental state; we cannot therefore without incurring the charge of the basest ingratitude unite in vilifying and misrepresenting that *part of the empire* to which we esteem ourselves so deeply indebted for their generous care and protection.

TENTHLY. Because they cannot but shudder with the apprehensions of that terrible carnage, and *deluge of blood* which the lady threatens in said address, and which she dwells upon with seeming savage pleasure; and as she there acknowledges that we are *British blood* and *British spirits*, we cannot indulge a thought so shocking to humanity as for brethren to meet in hostile array; we are therefore ready to acknowledge that we are neither *Amazonians* nor *Corficans* in their sanguinary dispositions; but should the *British heroes* dare to attack us, they would find probably to their cost, that we should not hesitate to engage with them where duty and honour led the way.

ELEVENTHLY. That it is their humble opinion that the request made to her Majesty is totally inconsistent with the female character, and more especially repugnant to her Majesty's *disposition*, to promote the *domestic felicity* of her royal *Paramour*;

mour ; being therefore averse to all *curtian lectures*, and by no means inclined to encourage an undue invasion of *prerogative* either *royal* or *conjugal* ; they would rather imitate the tender and submissive deportment of this great *Exemplar*, and acquiesce in the conduct of those whom it is their interest to please, and their duty to obey.

**TWELFTHLY.** They cannot but concur with the author of this address in wishing that *harmony between Britain and America may soon be restored and inviolably confirmed* ; but this happy event they cannot but contemplate at a distance, not from the causes mentioned in said address, being utterly unconscious of any such existing ; but from a spirit of *faction* and *uneasiness* industriously propagated and cherished, from the *lawless claims* of certain *state-desperadoes*, from the numerous insults and groundless aspersions of the governing powers here and in Great-Britain ; to which they attribute all the uneasiness which we now resent, and from which in thine own time good **LORD** deliver us.

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The Publisher of the CENSOR is desired to insert the following *Recipe* to make a *modern PATRIOT* for the colonies, especially for the *Massachusetts*, to wit.

**T**AKE of impudence, virulence, and groundless abuse, *quantum sufficit* ; of flowing periods, *half a drachm* ; conscience a *quarter of a scruple* ; atheism, deism, and libertinism, *ad libitum* ; false reports well adapted, and plausible lies, with groundless alarms, *one hundred wt. avoirdupois* ; a malignant abuse of Magistracy, a pusillanimous and diabolical contempt of divine revelation and all its abettors *an equal quantity* ; honour and integrity not quite an *atom* ; fraud, imposition, and hypocrisy, any proportion that may seem expedient ; infuse these in the credulity of the people, *one thousand gallons* as a *menstrum*, stir in the *phrenzy* of the *times*, and at the end of a year or two, this judicious composition will probably bring forth a **Y----**, an **A----**, an **O---**, and a **M-----**.

Probatum Est, T. N.